

STUDENT

Ms.Kelm

Writing as Inquiry: Intro to comp

6 November 2017

Should There Be Stricter Gun Laws?

There has been a debate for a while about whether there should be stricter gun laws after all of the mass murders caused by the deadly weapon. Recently in the past month there has been two massive murders performed by guns. A Las Vegas shooting that killed 58 people and a Texas church shooting that killed 27. While this is an enormous loss and the whole country is mourning the lives taken carelessly by a sick individual, are stricter gun laws really going to make a difference?

There are many people that believe the theory of, if you remove guns from individuals then there will be less murders. Chicago who has some of the some of the strictest gun laws also has the highest murders per capita in the nation. Sanders states, "I think if you look to Chicago where you had over 4,000 victims of gun-related crimes last year they have the strictest gun laws in the country. That certainly hasn't helped there." So, if you restrict guns because they kill people are you going to restrict trucks because they kill people? Or planes because they can be hijacked and used as bombs? A few weeks ago, Sayfullo Habibullaevic Saipov used a truck to kill eight people in a busy bike lane in New York City. There have been several truck attacks in England that have taken lives of innocent people.

Sara Kelm 11/9/2017 3:32 PM

**Comment [1]:** You've got to let us know what gun laws are in place now, and how gun laws might change.

Sara Kelm 11/9/2017 3:32 PM

**Comment [2]:** Are you sure this is all there have been? Look further!

Sara Kelm 11/9/2017 3:34 PM

**Comment [3]:** Careful here! Watch how you talk about these things – "careless" isn't entirely accurate in the Las Vegas shooting, because he was very methodical. Also, "sick" – we're not sure if they were all mentally ill. I mean, I think they must have had something wrong in their brains to commit these acts, but we don't know that for sure.

Sara Kelm 11/9/2017 3:34 PM

**Comment [4]:** fewer

Sara Kelm 11/9/2017 3:34 PM

**Comment [5]:** The argument could be made that there would have been even more had the gun laws been laxer.

Sara Kelm 11/9/2017 3:37 PM

**Comment [6]:** This isn't an equal analogy. Trucks can be made into weapons, true, but they are not inherently weapons. Their main use is not to injure/kill, which is what guns do – we assume people buying guns are just going to kill animals or use them at shooting ranges, but guns' main purpose, the main reason they were developed, was to injure or break.

We are at a phase in our society that we need to be more prudent and aware. If these mentally ill people want to kill people they are going to get a gun either legally or illegally but they will find a way if they really want to kill people. So the question that lies here is, is it the weapon that is the problem or is it the individual? We should beef up our mental health care system and the treatment that they provide. A spokesperson for the Texas Department of Public Safety said, "This was not racially motivated. It wasn't over religious beliefs. It was a domestic situation going on" (Mr.Martin). This person was obviously mentally ill and had previous domestic violence reports on his file.

Sara Kelm 11/9/2017 3:37 PM

**Comment [7]:** You don't talk at all about mental illness! Prove to use that these shooters have been mentally ill.

Sara Kelm 11/9/2017 3:38 PM

**Comment [8]:** A)this doesn't mean that gun control also wouldn't help, and B) where would the money for this come from?

Sara Kelm 11/9/2017 3:38 PM

**Comment [9]:** How does this help your claim? And who are you talking about?

Sara Kelm 11/9/2017 3:38 PM

**Comment [10]:** So? How does this help you?

Authors note:

I choose the topic of gun laws, it is a very talked about debate right now about if they should be stricter or not. And after doing some research I found some good points on both sides. Right now I feel like I have written a lot from what I believe and I plan on adding more about the other side and why they think stricter gun laws would be beneficial. I don't want my argument to be to one-sided. So far I feel like I got some good points down and after getting other ideas down I really want to focus on organization and make sure everything flows how I want it to. I also plan on getting more sources because I only have three at the moment. Overall I want to make a strong argument but still make sure the other side is stated clearly and why I believe what I believe.

Sources:

<http://www.npr.org/2017/10/05/555580598/fact-check-is-chicago-proof-that-gun-laws-don-t-work>

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2017/03/22/attack-uk-parliament-what-we-know/99490308/>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/06/us/texas-shooting-church.html>

STUDENT, you know you have a lot of work to do! You don't really support your claim at all, and you really need to bring up counterarguments. Give us more of a context for your argument. Tell us what the situations are. Also, you're saying "no gun control, yes mental health treatment." But why not both? What is the reason that increased gun control is a bad move? That needs to be the main focus of your argument, OR you can focus on increased mental health services. Do more reading. Right now, it seems like you haven't done the inquiry part of this assignment, where you don't know what you think until you do your research. Do some more research, and try to let go of your opinion. You may find something new, and while your mind may not change fully, you might be surprised at what you find out, or how your opinion might shift slightly. Focus on much more research, context, and reasons for your claim that are supported by solid evidence! Keep going!